



HSL-45 DET 2 “DEATH DEALERS” MONTHLY NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2006



September 4, 2006

Hello DET 2 Families! It has been exactly a month since we set sail aboard the USS Halsey (DDG 97), and there are many to stories for us to share with those of you back home.

About a week after we pulled out of San Diego harbor, we were pulling into our first port stop—Pearl Harbor Naval Station on the beautiful island of Oahu in Hawaii. The sight of land was a welcome one, especially for our first-time deployers. Maintainers and aircrew got the chance to relax in the tropical weather for a few days, as well as enjoy the sights of the islands.



DET 2 personnel on the flight deck with Hawaii in the background.

After a few days of getting reacquainted with our land-legs, we pulled out once again in route to the Philippine Islands in the South Pacific. Although the days were filled with many arduous maintenance hours and over 50 hours of logged flight time, there was also much fun to be had on our voyage west, including

two aircrewmembers getting qualified as USS Halsey Command SAR Swimmers, and a “Swim Call” (jumping off the side of the ship in the open ocean) just prior to crossing the International Date Line.



The entire AIRDET participates in Aircraft Freshwater washes.



AW2 Peer and AW2 Messick prepare for Command Survival Swimmer Training.



AT2 Senkowksi and AZAN Briscoe enjoy a swim in the open ocean during "Swim Call".

After arriving at our working area in late August, the crew of the Halsey and its on-board air detachment got to work. In carrying out its role in the Global War on Terrorism, the USS Halsey and DET 2 are performing a variety of missions in support of US and allied forces. By the end of the month, Lonewolf 47 had logged 80 hours of mission-critical flight time for the entire month of August, thanks to the dedication of a hard-working group of maintainers and a focused group of pilots and aircrewmembers.

The month of September looks to be a promising one, with potential port calls and more eventful missions awaiting us. But first and foremost, a few of the DET maintainers must put their minds to work as they prepare for this month's E-4, E-5, and E-6 advancement exams. DET 2's sailors are among the Navy's best, and should excel in their upcoming exams.

The days and nights have been long (and extremely hot!), but all the hard work is continuing to pay off as Lonewolf 47 and her aircrews continue to carry out their daily missions in support of the ship and a Joint-Forces effort in the Philippines. We would like to thank you for your continued support and encouragement of all of our efforts out here, and we all continue to look forward to receiving all of your emails and care packages!



Maintainers race out to put chocks and chains on the aircraft during a straightening evolution.



Night-check enjoying a break from the late-night maintenance that keeps Lonewolf 47 airborne.



AA Barnard studying hard for his EAWS pin.